

Claims

1. A supply unit for at least one LED unit , which supply unit has:
5 a detection unit , designed for detecting the identity of the LED unit
by means of electrical quantities,
supply terminals for the supply of power to the LED unit by the
supply unit ,
wherein the identity of the LED unit is detected via the supply
terminals .
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2. The supply unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the supply unit
furthermore contains a control unit , which controls the power supply
of the LED unit on the basis of the detected identity of the LED unit.
- 15 3. The supply unit as claimed in either of claims 1 and 2, characterized
in that the detection and the power supply are effected exclusively
via the supply terminals .
- 20 4. A method for detecting the identity of at least one LED unit , which
has the following steps:
provision of a first electrical quantity for the LED unit to be detected,
detection of the identity of the LED unit using a second electrical
quantity, which is provided by the LED unit in response to the first
electrical quantity,
25 wherein the identity is detected via supply terminals , which serve for
supplying power to the LED unit .
- 30 5. The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein it furthermore comprises
the control of the power supply of the at least one LED unit on the
basis of the detected identity of the LED unit .
6. The method as claimed in claim 4 or 5, wherein it is performed
repeatedly during the operation of the LED unit .
- 35 7. The method as claimed in claim 4 , wherein the detection and the
power supply of the LED unit are effected exclusively via the supply
terminals .
8. The method as claimed in claim 4 , wherein in order to detect the

identity of the LED unit , a voltage that is small in relation to the power supply is applied and the LED unit is detected by an impedance of an identification unit ,
the impedance of the identification unit being small with respect to
5 the LED impedance that is effective at the small voltage applied.

9. A LED unit for connection to a supply unit as claimed in claim 1, having:
at least one LED ,
10 supply terminals for the power supply of the supply unit and,
an identification unit with technical properties that can be registered during the detection of the identity of the LED unit ,
furthermore the identification unit can be identified via the supply terminals .

15 10. The LED unit as claimed in claim 9, wherein the detection and power supply can be effected exclusively via two supply terminals .

20 11. The LED unit as claimed in claim 9, wherein the identification unit can be switched off.

12. The LED unit as claimed in claim 9, wherein the impedance of the identification unit is small with respect to the LED impedance that is effective at a voltage that is applied to the LED unit and is small in
25 relation to the power supply.

13. A system comprising a supply unit as claimed in claim 1 and at least one LED unit as claimed in claim 9.